## **COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES**



Kurt E. Floren
Agricultural Commissioner
Director of Weights and Measures

## Department of Agricultural Commissioner/ Weights and Measures

12300 Lower Azusa Road Arcadia, California 91006-5872 http://acwm.lacounty.gov



DATE:

August 4, 2011

TO:

Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich, Mayor, Fifth District

Supervisor Gloria Molina, First District

Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas, Second District Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky, Third District Supervisor Don Knabe, Fourth District

FROM:

Kurt E. Floren

Agricultural Commissioner

Director of Weights and Measures

## SUBJECT: ORIENTAL FRUIT FLY ERADICATION

Three sexually mature male specimens of Oriental Fruit Fly (OFF), a major agricultural pest, have been detected in Alhambra and San Gabriel: the first on Friday, July 29 in San Gabriel; the second Saturday, July 30 in Alhambra; the third on Wednesday, August 3 in Alhambra. Mated female Oriental Fruit Flies deposit eggs into produce and resulting maggots make the produce unfit for consumption. To address this pest, the California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) will conduct an OFF eradication operation over a 20.1 square-mile area covering Alhambra and portions of San Gabriel, Temple City, Rosemead, Monterey Park, South Pasadena, Pasadena, San Marino, and the El Sereno neighborhood of the City of Los Angeles (see attached map).

A "male attractant" technique will be employed to combat this pest. This technique presents no inconvenience to community members. It consists of squirting a small spot of bait onto streetside tree trunks. Approximately 600 such "bait stations" are placed approximately six to eight feet up on the trees in each square mile of the eradication area. Male flies feed on the bait and are killed by the small amount of Naled pesticide in the bait. No aerial bait treatments are planned. CDFA plans to begin treatments Saturday, August 6, and will repeat at two-week intervals for at least six sessions.

We are informing the City Managers of Alhambra and portions of San Gabriel, Temple City, Rosemead, Monterey Park, South Pasadena, Pasadena, San Marino, and Los Angeles City Councilman José Huizar, their respective public works departments, the County Department of Public Works, and your Board offices in the treatment area to enable staff to answer questions from the public.

I will continue to update you as details become available and warrant an update.

## KEF:kp

c: William T Fujioka, Chief Executive Officer Jackie White, Deputy Chief Executive Officer, Safety Board Deputies

